

SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE SATELLITE FLYER

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NEWS



The Health and Wellness Center expands its staff and offers more services to spread wellness basewide.

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2nd Space Operations Squadron seals their fate as three-time winners of base champs.

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MEMBERS PUSH IT OUT FOR TRIATHALON



photo by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Thibault

Army Sgt. Tate Twombly, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Satellite Control Battallion, runs the last few feet before the finish line of Schriever Air Force Base's first triathlon. Twombly was one of the more than 25 participants

in the unique event. Participants swam at Peterson AFB, then biked out to Schriever and ran the perimeter of the base. See Pages 8 and 9 for more coverage of the services and fitness center sponsored event.

Payroll deductions beginning for delinquent travel cardholders

Staff Sgt. A.J. Bosker
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — In October, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service will begin involuntary payroll deductions for almost 8,000 Air Force people who are more than 120 days delinquent on their government travel charge card accounts.

These deductions, up to 15 percent of a person's disposable income, will help Bank of America recoup the millions of dollars that cardholders owe on their past due accounts, said Michael Weber, Air Force Travel Card Program manager at the Pentagon.

"Last month alone, Bank of America wrote off \$161,000 from delinquent Air Force cardholders," Weber said.

Before any payroll deduction begins, Bank of America will notify each cardholder, once an account reaches 90 days past due, and offer them one of two options to settle the account voluntarily, said Col. Gregory Morgan, Air Force accounting, banking and comptroller support director at the Pentagon.

"The first option is a one-time payment to bring the account current," Morgan said. "The second option, for those financially unable to pay the account in full, is to enter into a written agreement with Bank of

America to make voluntary monthly payments."

By voluntarily settling a past due account, Bank of America will permit the cardholder to restore their government travel charge card privileges, Weber said.

However, if a cardholder defaults on these agreements or does not make arrangements with the bank to settle the account, the unpaid account balance will be submitted to DFAS for immediate involuntary payroll deduction, he said. This will result in the permanent termination of all government travel charge card privileges for the offending cardholder.

SEE PAYROLL PAGE 3

Positive attitude vital for leaders

Chief Master Sgt. Montie Glaze
50th Operations Group

So you walk into your office in the morning and you notice without shock, there’s another short-notice tasker. What’s your first reaction? Probably the same as everyone else’s, “You’ve got to be kidding!” However, it’s your second reaction that will determine your success for failure.

Having a positive attitude is the foundation for success. I mean instead of “I can’t”; it’s “How can I?” If, as in this example of the short-notice tasker, your attitude is that there’s no way to provide a quality product given the time allotted, then more than likely you will not put much effort into the project and the product that you will turn around will suffer. However, if you have a positive attitude, you will put all effort into the project. You know, excellence in all we do. It’s hard to achieve that core value if you don’t have a positive attitude. Believing you will achieve your goal will help you look for ways to provide a good product. In this example, it maybe as simple as asking for more time. This is something often over looked by those who just want to get the task done. You might clear your schedule by moving lower priority activities to a later date giving you the time needed to provide a quality product. Also, believing you will achieve your goal will help you find ways around obstacles. If you have a negative attitude, you will also look for obstacles, not so you can find a way around them but to provide a reason not to continue. Maybe the task is more than one person can handle. Having a positive attitude is extremely valuable in trying to solicit help from others.

A positive attitude is a virtual must for a leader. First, a positive attitude is contagious. If you have a positive attitude, then more than likely your people will share your enthusiasm. Second, a positive attitude fosters loyalty. If leaders believe in a positive outcome, they provide the appearance that their workers will come through with a solution. Workers are more loyal to bosses who believe in them. For this, these workers are more willing to provide their opinions and recommendations, furthering the probability of success. Third, a positive attitude helps build a cohesive team. Everyone wants to succeed and be part of a winning team. So, they are more apt to follow a person they believe will lead them to success. Also, leaders with a positive attitude seem to handle stress better for they know the outcome. Therefore, if a subordinate is slowed by an obstacle, they know the boss will not have their head on a platter. This belief will prevent infighting or finger pointing within the group. These are the very conflicts that tear down team cohesion.

Finally, a positive attitude gives the perception of fair play. If members of other agencies believe you are looking for the best solution (and that is what people with a positive attitude really strive to accomplish), then they are more willing to cooperate and compromise for they believe their concerns and needs are being taken into consideration.

There will always be short-notice taskers, crisis situations and obstacles. The first step in overcoming these challenges is by keeping a positive attitude. With a positive attitude, you will find solutions. Hard to believe? If you said, “Yes,” then you’re not quite there yet.

CC shares appreciation



Col. Larry James

Col. Larry James
Commander, 50th Space Wing

We’ve just concluded the 101 critical days of summer, and the 50th Space Wing had no reportable incidents. Outstanding effort! Thanks to everyone in the wing for being smart, using common sense and avoiding accidents. And thanks also to our safety office for keeping us aware of the hazards we faced

throughout the summer—well done.

There’s a lot on our plate as we enter the fall and we’ll need everyone operating at full speed to get the mission done. Major efforts include bringing on the fitness center, breaking ground on the addition to Bldg. 210, undergoing a Joint Staff Integrated Vulnerability Assessment, full operational capability of our consolidated Network Control Center, completing Defense Satellite Program 21 Checkout and continuing our Air Force Satellite Control Network upgrades.

It’s great to have everyone back from the summer—now let’s gear up for a great fall at the 50th.

Rand reflects on legacy of General Mike Ryan

Brig. Gen. Ron Rand
Director of Public Affairs

Thursday was a big day for our Air Force. At 9 a.m., Gen. Michael Ryan, who has been our chief of staff for the past four years, retired and Gen. John Jumper became our 17th chief of staff. It’s an exciting and important moment in our history — the end of one era and the beginning of another. After all the farewells and thanks, General Ryan will depart, and amid all the welcomes and congrats, General Jumper will take the stick. His priorities as our top uniformed officer will be readiness, retention and transformation, and together with Dr. Jim Roche, our secretary, General Jumper will work hard to make sure we remain the world’s greatest aerospace force.

In one of his final media interviews, General Ryan was asked what he thought his legacy would be. In typical fashion, he downplayed talk of his own accomplishments, focusing on those of the Air Force team instead. That’s the way he is; for him, the Air Force, and Air Force people, come first, in every decision he makes and every action he takes. He leads us from that position, with clear vision for the future, abiding passion for our institution, and unbridled compassion for our people.

When he became chief of staff, General Ryan saw a need to return to our expeditionary roots, and embarked us on the transition to today’s expeditionary aerospace force. He knew readiness and retention were our biggest near-term prob-

lems, and he set out to correct disturbing downward trends in both. Most importantly, he recognized our strength is in our people — that the best equipment in the world is just machinery without bright, dedicated, enthusiastic, patriotic, well-cared-for Americans to operate and maintain it. And he dedicated himself to making us one force, one family — to taking care of our people.

It’s our people he cares about the most — every single one of them. In every crisis, and in every decision, he makes sure our first action is to take care, both institutionally and personally, of the people affected. His interest extends beyond the active-duty force, to the guard and reserve, to our civilians and contractors, to our retirees, and — especially — to our families. It comes from his unshakable belief in the premise that we’re an Air Force family and a family Air Force, and from his unbending commitment to the promise that we take care of own. For him, it’s all about leadership.

General Ryan believes leadership is a team sport, that it should not be personalized, and that good ideas are best when they don’t have a single identity ... so his leadership style focuses on group ideas and team accomplishments, rather than on him. He begins meetings with a request that everyone participate, because more input will result in better decisions, and because everyone working together is better and smarter than any one could be. He encourages collaboration and cooperation in all things, and sets the example in his teamwork with our secretary and

with our sister services. And he’s a great communicator.

The chief recognizes the importance of telling our story — to our airmen, to the media, to the public, and to Congress — and he personally tackles the big and tough communication challenges. He also believes leadership is all about communicating, so he restored the chain of command as the primary information source for Air Force people. He has one hard-and-fast rule: when telling our story, our credibility with public and internal audiences depends on openness and honesty — absolute integrity and truth need to be our watchwords. Nothing more, nothing less. He calls it, “blabbing the truth.”

In the last four years, we’ve become a much better Air Force, playing a much larger role on the world stage. We’ve built stability into our expeditionary operations ... arrested readiness ... restored our retirement ... worked retention and recruiting hard to maintain the quality of our force ... increased bonuses ... got pay raises ... fought for our people at every turn ... and so much more. General Ryan would tell you that’s what the Air Force leadership team has been up to these past four years. That he would say is the unique and selfless legacy of this third-generation airman, aviator, leader and patriot who has spent his whole life in the Air Force and who retired Thursday with more than 36 years of active duty service to this great nation of ours — General Mike Ryan.

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News briefs

Medical logistics system saves DOD big bucks

For years, defense officials have been saying that the department would reap substantial savings by adopting private industries’ “best-business practices.”

The Defense Medical Logistics Standard Support System proves the point. The program is a partnership of DOD, TRICARE, the services and commercial companies, said Army Col. Dan Magee, program manager.

The system brings “best practices” to bear on medical logistics. With these changes, DOD has virtually eliminated the large inventories military hospitals and clinics used to keep on hand. Further, DOD now pays the lowest prices for supplies and drugs of any large U.S. healthcare organization, he said. Finally, by using commercial systems the whole process of contracting, ordering and paying is totally electronic.

“We’ve reduced by over \$600 million the amount of medical supplies that we hold,” Magee said. “We also have \$150 million a year in cost avoidance because we use these large central contracts.”

Shelton talks change, troops, transformation

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Henry H. Shelton reflected on change and present and future challenges facing the military during an Aug. 22 interview with American Forces Information Service.

The 59-year-old Army Ranger and Special Forces-schooled paratrooper is slated to complete his second two-year term as chairman and to retire Sept. 30.

The chairman noted that things have “changed considerably” across the military since he pinned on his gold lieutenant’s bars.

“We had a draft at that time and a force that was predominately single,” Shelton remarked, adding that the majority of service members in today’s volunteer military force are married.

The active components performed most of DOD’s missions during the Cold War years, said Shelton, a Vietnam and Gulf War veteran. However, with the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and the ensuing drawdown, the reserve components had to shoulder more of the load.

U.S. Taekwondo team captures 5 medals at CISM championship

The U.S. military Tae kwon do team captured five medals and finished ninth in a field of 19 at the 13th Conseil International du Sport Militaire World Tae kwon do Championship Aug. 8-16 at Woensdrecht Air Base, the Netherlands.

A strong Korean team took top honors in the men’s division and China won the women’s title.

Army Spc. Yelena Pisarenko of the Army’s World Class Athlete Program at Fort Carson, Colo., took the silver in the women’s lightweight division after a loss to Masechocha Thamae of Lesotho. Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Liz Evans of Colorado Springs took the silver with a loss in the finals to Elena Asseeva of Russia.

Air Force Airman 1st Class Ivan Abudo from Ramstein Air Base, Germany scored the bronze medal in the men’s welterweight division, losing to Young-Keun Lee from Korea.

Army Spc. Darrell Rydholm of Fort Bragg, N.C., earned a well-deserved bronze in the men’s middleweight division. After winning two back-to-back contests, he lost to a well-rested Azat Ioussoupov of Russia.

In perhaps the most exciting contest of the entire championship, Army Spc. David Bartlett of Fort Carson met local hero Dennis Bekkers of the Netherlands in the men’s featherweight division final. It was a heated contest between two talented and “class-act” fighters. The U.S. delegation did its best to “out-chant” the local crowd that had packed the stands.

PAYROLL from page 1.

Additionally, Bank of America will begin reporting all delinquent government travel charge card accounts to the credit bureaus.

“This financial irresponsibility by Air Force members greatly impacts their ability to travel and to accomplish the mission,” Morgan said.

Morgan said increased unit oversight of the travel charge card program is needed to help combat current and future account delinquencies.

“When commanders are more cognizant of their unit’s program, we see a much lower delinquency rate among Air Force members,” he said. “As more commanders have become involved, we have dropped from a 12-percent delinquency rate to one much closer to the nationwide delinquency rate among Visa and Master Card users.”

“Although the Air Force has reduced the number of its delinquent accounts, the lowest among any service, we still have a long way to go,” Weber said. “It’s really up to the person entrusted with the government travel charge card to do the right thing — pay for what you use.”


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Merger enhances Air Force’s leadership options

Master Sgt. Rick Burnham
Air force Print News

On paper, the merging of two major Air Force personnel offices in the Pentagon appears to simply be a matter of combining similar tasks, of streamlining an area in which one unit can do the job of two.

But, Air Force officials said, the combination of the General Officer Matters Office with the Senior Executive Service Matters Office Saturday, will result in much more than just a transparent, organizational shift. The resulting unit will provide the Air Force with an enhanced capability to manage its senior leaders - a better avenue to put the best people in the positions they need to be in.

“The merger of these two offices is a landmark effort,” said Col. Richard Hassan, chief of AFGOMO. “It will better prepare us to realize the vast potential of our Air Force leaders.”

Hassan, who will head the new Senior Leader Management Office after the merger, said the change will give the Air Force a number of advantages over the old system.

“It will not only allow us to better use our leadership team, but will also allow us to develop that team more deliberately,” he said. “This will lay a solid foundation, giving us a bigger pool of talent to meet the challenges of the future.”

Dr. James Roche, secretary of the Air

Force, agreed with the colonel, adding that the new structure will provide a number of different benefits for the Air Force of the 21st century. He noted that the merger was the vision of Gen. Michael Ryan, who retired as Air Force chief of staff Thursday.

“This combination will help us realize one of General Ryan’s goals as chief of staff - to build an enduring, unified cadre of aerospace leaders,” the secretary said. “In today’s total Air Force, we simply must identify, develop and motivate talented individuals, military and civilian, to fulfill the missions of our Expeditionary Aerospace Force. By merging our General Officer and Senior Executive Service programs, we will enhance operating efficiencies and reduce costs, while dramatically boosting ‘cross-cultural’ awareness among officers and senior civilians in the Air Force.

“The development of leaders who understand the requirements of our Total Force — active military, civilian, guard, reserve, and contractor personnel — will serve as yet another tangible hallmark of the tremendous contributions that Mike Ryan has made to his country during his military career.”

Currently, AFGOMO provides “lifecycle” management of Air Force flag officer corps, from the point they are selected for promotion to brigadier general until their retirement. That includes all assignments,

awards, housing and enlisted aid matters - essentially any personnel matter that would involve a general officer, Hassan said.

AFSEMO provides policy guidance and assistance for the management and administration of the SES Corps with the civilian personnel flights around the Air Force handling the day-to-day operations.

Combining the two offices will essentially do two things for the Air Force, Hassan said.

“This will send a strong message to the force that we definitely consider both general officers and SES civilians as part of the senior leadership of the Air Force,” he said. “It also gives us the capability to more effectively use our leaders’ various talents. In the future, we will look at certain challenges - jobs - and we’ll be better positioned to find the most competent, talented individual to handle the task at hand.”

Hassan used a sports analogy to explain the benefits of the new organization.

“A baseball team does not need nine pitchers - it needs shortstops and catchers and right fielders too,” he said. “Instead of having half the team on one side and the other half on the other side, we’re combining the two so that we can better choose the right people for the right jobs. It takes experts at every position to make a great team.”

Howland opts for OTS

Staff Sgt. Jennifer Thibault
50th Space Wing Public Affairs

Recently, Tech. Sgt. Mark Howland, firefighter here, was selected for commissioning through the Professional Officer Course-Early Release Program. However, he’s decided to leave that road for someone else to travel as he was selected for commissioning through Officer Training School.

“The selection to OTS is a much better choice for myself and my family simply because I will not have to separate from the Air Force,” said Howland.

Howland applied for both programs in hopes of landing one of them, he said. But he was hopeful all along to get the OTS commission. “I am excited about the challenges of OTS, it’s definitely not an easy way to get a commission,” he added.

With his selection to this program, Howland has gained a little more information in respects to what lies ahead. “I know that I will be going into the transportation career field, but I don’t know when I’ll be leaving yet,” he said.

Howland still has to complete his commissioning physical. After his physical paperwork is turned in he’s expected to wait at least five weeks before he’ll receive his class date.

But Howland didn’t make this trip alone. “I honestly do not think any of this would have been possible if my wife had not given me the encouragement and support she did. ”

Vigilant Eagle 2002 Board results announced

Capt. Lorinda Federick
AFSPC Directorate of Personnel

PETERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Colo. - The commander of Air Force Space Command recently announced the results of the Vigilant Eagle 2002 Operations Squadron Commander Selection Board held here Aug. 16-17.

Gen. Ed Eberhart identified 65 lieutenant colonel and lieutenant colonel-select candidates from an original field of 195 officers. The 65 candidates will now compete for 31 projected space and missile squadron command position openings in 2002.

The board considered all aspects of the officers’ records and duty histories to include demonstrated leadership, leadership potential and professional development.

In his charge to the board

members, Eberhart emphasized the Space Commission’s recommendation of creating a space professional

“While we will always need commanders who are firmly grounded in operations, we agree with the commission’s concept of cross-flowing people from the space acquisition and R&D (research and development) community,” he said.

Vigilant Eagle 2002 board results mirror the Space Commission’s recommendation. Of the 65 candidates, there are 51 space and missile (core 13S) candidates, eight developmental engineering (core 62E) candidates, five acquisition (core 63A) candidates, and one space and missile maintenance (core 21M) candidate.

Operations squadron commander selections will be announced in mid-October. Candidates not selected for

command during the initial process will remain eligible throughout 2002 for unprojected squadron commander requirements.

Board members included the AFSPC vice commander, the Space and Missile Center commander, AFSPC’s director of operations, the Space Warfare Center commander, the 14th and 20th Air Force commanders, the National Reconnaissance Office senior Air Force officer, all AFSPC wing commanders or vice commanders, and Air Education and Training Command’s 381st Training Group commander.

Board membership was expanded this year to include SMC and NRO representation. That underscored the importance of cross-flowing officers from those organizations and emphasized AFSPC’s commitment to building space profes-

sionals.

Experience demographics reveal that of the 65 candidates, nine have NRO experience, four have developmental engineering experience, four have acquisition experience, and eight have both developmental engineering and acquisition experience.

A briefing on the board results will soon be presented to AFSPC staff, space wings and other affected organizations.

For more information on Vigilant Eagle, call Capt. Frank Mills at (719) 554-3470 or DSN 692-3470, or Capt. Shane Clark at (719) 554-2690 or DSN 692-2690. People can also visit the Vigilant Eagle Web site at <https://midway.peterson.af.mil/2letters/dp/vigilanteagle.htm> or email questions vigilant.eagle@peterson.af.mil.



Maj. Denise Irizarry
Health Promotions Manager

The Schriever Health and Wellness Center opened its doors for service in March 2001. Since it's grand opening, the HAWC has expanded its staff. The HAWC's certified staff consists of a Health Promotions Manager, an Exercise Physiologist and a Nutrition Specialist.

Check out the HAWC

The HAWC's mission is to provide Schriever Air Force Base with the very best in comprehensive, customer-driven wellness through awareness, education, prevention, and intervention. Our services are committed to improving individuals' readiness, optimizing health and enhancing Schriever's total force fitness. Client's individual needs are identified, prioritized, and matched with our existing services. Clients can obtain HAWC services through health-care provider referrals or self-referral.

Our Lifestyle Modification and Support programs include Stress Management and Tobacco Cessation Courses, Total Fitness

and Nutrition enhancement programs, and Cardiovascular and Cancer prevention education.

The HAWC's up to date wellness programs include QuitSmart Tobacco Cessation classes. Using the QuitSmart program, we hope we can end the hassles of trying to quit tobacco and assist individuals in kicking the tobacco addiction for good.

Our Installation Fitness Program Manager will assist personnel with the Cycle Ergometry Program, fitness assessments, exercise program design and personal training. Our nutrition specialist offers individual and group general nutrition

classes. If you're tired of fad diets with roller coaster weight loss then The Sensible Weigh class is for you. Or, stop by the HAWC for one on one diet counseling to find out how to lose weight, increase energy and best of all not feel hungry. The HAWC also carries a vast array of prevention informational pamphlets. Stay tuned for more exciting and informational programs. The Schriever HAWC is your one-stop shop for state of the art assistance in wellness!

For more information on programs, please call us at 567-HAWC, email us at HAWC@schriever.af.mil, or visit us at our website www.schriever.af.mil/hawc. We are located in Building 500 on the north side. Our hours of operation are 0730-1630 Monday through Friday.

Historian often forgotten

Staff Sgt. Jennifer Thibault
50th Space Wing Public Affairs

Some members find themselves unappreciated for their work but for this position to be forgotten is an oxymoron.

That's because Tech. Sgt. John Baker is the wing historian, documenting the wing's milestones to ensure they are not forgotten.

In a sentence, wing historians fulfill a unique opportunity to express themselves and permanently etch their two cents in the history of the wing, according to Baker. "We are responsible for writing the wing's history (documenting) and the base's units, as well as maintaining the archive files.

But how do these mostly cross-trainees prepare to be the official holders of a piece of Air Force history? After entering the career field, historian hopefuls attend a brief three-week technical school and head to the wing to complete Career Development Courses and attain their five level. This AFSC runs a two-week seven-level school as well.

Historians normally fill a lonely position, a seemingly becoming standard for Air Force—the one-deep slot. "It's funny, historians say 'we' when they talk about plans and actions but then you remember hey that's me, there's only me in my shop," said Baker. Although the wing positions are generally one deep, headquarters' shops generally have five or six members.

Not only do headquarters' shops record the command's history, they, like the wing shops, are fact finders for anyone trying to hunt down historical answers. HQs also perform training and support to the wing positions.

Although the manning might leave Baker a little less than excited, he finds motivation and satisfaction in the information requests. "I like researching and learning the background to get the answers for the requests," he said.

The documentation is very important said Baker. "When I'm writing the annual history, it's generally from a six-month to one-year out perspective. Down the road 10 years it might look differently and with the documentation they can accomplish further research," said Baker.

For Baker, staying on top of the base happenings isn't always easy. "Sometimes people make the decision for me on what is and isn't important for historical sake," said Baker. "They don't do it on purpose, it's just that they're so close to the happening, they don't see the big picture like I can," he added. Therefore Baker makes a distinct effort to be aware of the goings on at Schriever.



photo by Nancy Studinski

Tech. Sgt. John Baker, 50th Space Wing historian, hunts down the answers to an information request. Baker must maintain many reference books for this very reason.

Being in the forefront can have its disadvantages as well. "Since I make every effort to be in the know, I tend to get more calls for support than I would otherwise," he said. This publicity has ensured Baker's schedule to be non-stop with special requests recently.

He currently has three projects on his plate. First, and probably the most tasking, is the upcoming memorial for the USS Portland at the Air Force Academy. "Chief Clarke asked me to help get an honor guard team together to support the memorial—that was the easy part," he said. Baker's Navy counterparts asked for his help in scanning in papers and photos for the Navy's archive folder of the ship. The memorial is scheduled for Friday.

Secondly, Baker is helping attain oral recordings to maintain historical reference of one of Schriever's forerunner squadrons. The 3rd Photo Reconnaissance Squadron, predecessor to the 3rd Space Operations Squadron, held their reunion here this week.

During their visit, Baker interviewed them to record more Air Force history. "These folks aren't going to be around forever, many won't have the opportunity to ask them questions but with my interviews they might still get the answers they were seeking," said Baker.

The final project on Baker's plate is the Space and Missile Pioneer Week. Space Command holds this week of events, which includes a roundtable discussion and tour here, to honor two or three people who have made a significant impact on the space or missile arena. This ceremony will be held Wednesday.

For more information on the wing's history or any other questions contact John Baker at 7-6877.

Space and Missile Pioneers to visit base

Tech. Sgt. John Baker
50th Space Wing Historian

Past and present recipients of the annual Air Force Space and Missile Pioneers Award will visit Schriever Air Force Base on Sept 12 as part of four days of activities culminating in the induction of this years honorees; Lt Gen Forrest McCartney, and Cols Lee Battle and Frank "Buzz" Buzard, all retired, into the Space and Missile Pioneers Hall of Fame.

Presented to those military and civilian leaders making key contributions in the space and missile arena, the Space and Missile Pioneers award recognizes accomplishments, often long veiled in secrecy, that led to today's technological and doctrinal advances. McCartney, Battle, and Buzard, for example, shepherded the Air Force's early satellite photo reconnaissance programs.

While at Schriever the Pioneers will tour the 4th Space Operations Squadron and will receive briefings from Space Warfare Center leaders. A roundtable discussion of their many interesting experiences, followed by a question and answer session, highlights the visit. The roundtable discussion will be held in the Building 300 auditorium at 1000 and is open to all base personnel. This is a don't miss opportunity to interact with history makers.

USS Portland's history

A memorial ceremony for the men and women who served on the USS Portland, a heavy cruiser during World War II, is scheduled for Sept. 14 at the United States Air Force Academy.

The Portland's role in history has often been overshadowed by events. For example, during the same hour when the Japanese surrendered to Gen. Douglas MacArthur on the decks of

the battleship USS Missouri, the Portland, while in the Caroline Islands in the Pacific Ocean, received high-ranking Japanese officials who signed documents surrendering all territories under Japanese control.

The ship launched May 21, 1932, and was commissioned in the Boston Navy Yard Feb. 23, 1933.

The Portland was enroute to Midway Island, in the Pacific, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor December 7, 1941. For the remainder of that year, and until May 1942, the Portland patrolled areas around Hawaii, and Fiji.

During the battle of the Coral Sea, the Portland was

part of an attack group responsible for repelling an invading Japanese army from New Guinea. The ship also saw action during the Battle of Midway.

The Portland was involved in the Naval Battle of Guadalcanal, which saw many casualties to both American and Japanese forces, Nov. 12 to 15, 1942. Nov. 13, 1942, Portland took a torpedo hit that disabled propellers and jammed the rudder five degrees to the right. The ship was left steaming in circles.

Despite this damage, the Portland attacked a nearby Japanese battleship and set fire to it. Later, the ship attacked the Japanese

destroyer Yudachi, sinking it after a brief battle.

On the action seen by the Portland, a senior Navy official said, "the Portland's performance was most commendable, especially as regards to ship and damage control. The sinking of an enemy destroyer by Portland three hours and 45 minutes after the night action, and steaming in circles, was one of the highlights of this action."

It took nearly a half-year to complete the Portland's repairs, after which, the Portland continued to serve in the Pacific during World War II.

After the war, the Portland was assigned to

Operation Magic Carpet, an operation to transport American troops to the United States from Europe. On her second voyage, a hurricane hit the ship, killing four and injuring 50. The Portland, seriously damaged, sailed to the Azores and received assistance.

The ship sailed back to the United States and was declared unseaworthy, due to the damages sustained in the hurricane. The Portland was decommissioned July 12, 1946, and March 1, 1959, the ship was disassembled.

(Compiled from information from <http://www.ussportland.org>)



Triathlon drains endurance of participants

Twenty-six people took part in the first Schriever Air Force Base Triathlon Friday, pushing themselves to their personnel limits. While some participants raced against goals they set for themselves, others had just one goal in mind...to finish.

Participants swam 500 meters at the Peterson Aquatic Center, bicycled 18 miles from Peterson AFB to Schriever, and then completed a 3.5 mile run around the base perimeter.

"I want to make this an annual event and really appreciate all the support we received," said Seth Cannello, base athletic director. "There were a few errors that will be corrected next year, but overall I think the triathlon was a huge success."

Turning in the winning time of the race was Brett Wilson with a time of 1:21:17. The other participants were:

Wave A	Race #	Finish time
1. Brett Wilson	4373	1:21:17
2. Rad Widman	4387	1:23:43
3. Rob Ladewig	4384	1:26:30
4. Heath Busche	4364	1:31:42
5. Greg Grimes	4375	1:32:21
6. Ed Browne	4381	1:32:45
7. Matthew Wisniewski	4360	1:41:32
8. Tate Twombly	4357	1:45:13
9. Brian Miller	4355	1:45:58
10. Michael Wulfestieg	4361	1:49:01
11. Paul Bishop	4359	1:56:21

Wave B	Race #	Finish time
1. Terry Finnegan	4378	1:40:10
2. Tim Wilday	4339	1:44:10
3. Earl Tubbs	4352	1:51:37
4. Matt Kimsal	4369	1:52:12
5. Charles Carpenter	4372	1:53:33
6. Matthew Arenault	4363	1:55:44
7. David Luplow	4356	1:59:02
8. Bob Mutu	4353	2:14:14
9. Steve Schmalz	4337	2:20:43
10. Brian Sarpy	4335	2:20:43
11. Steve Horton	4370	2:30:59

Wave C	Race #	Finish time
1. David Learn	4382	2:13:14
2. Robert Joyce	4377	2:21:32
3. Amy Coffman	4334	2:26:02
4. Donna Hack	4380	3:04:35



Brett Wilson wasn't the first person finished with the swimming portion of the first Schriever Air Force Base triathlon, but he more than made up the time difference on the bike and running legs to finish in first place.



photo by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Thibault

◀ The first leg of the triathlon called the 26 participants to the pool. Members had to swim 500 meters at the Peterson Aquatic Center before making their way to Schriever via bicycles.

Matt Kimsal gladly takes a cup of water from Karen Waters, Services, along the 3.5 mile course participants had to run.



▲ David Luplow rolls into the bike drop-off point after completing the 18-mile ride from Peterson Air Force Base to Schriever.



Earl Tubbs, 1st Space Operations Squadron, prepares for the second leg of the triathalong, the 18 mile bike ride. ▶



The first three participants from the first wave rehash the treuous journey.



Wave B members lead the way up one of the many hills on the DAR road enrout to Schriever.

Grades K-12 recycle poster contest

This is an invitation for your K-12 grade students to participate in the Second Annual America Recycles Day Poster Contest. The theme must be: “America Recycles Day: A Great Time to Renew Our Commitment to Recycling.” Only students from the immediate family of federal government employees or government contractors are eligible to participate.

The contest rules and entry requirements are available at <http://inside/50ces/environmental>.

Winners will be honored at an awards ceremony in the White House complex during the week of America Recycles Day. For more information about this contest, contact William Rose at 7-4242.

Next AAPI meeting

The next Asian American Pacific/Islander Employment Program Committee meeting will be holding its fifth meeting, Wednesday at 3 p.m. in the Peterson Air Force Base Mission Support Squadron’s atrium. This forum is open to all interested Peterson Complex (includes Peterson, Cheyenne Mountain and Schriever) civil service and military personnel. One of the topics is how to improve civilian employment opportunities for AAPI personnel within underrepresented and/or progression into upper mobility positions within the federal employment market. We also want to assist the military AAPI personnel who will be retiring and transitioning to a civilian life who desire to continue as a civil service employee. Feel free to join us

each month, either to listen or to participate in the listed agenda for that particular meeting. The committee wants your concerns/ideas. For more information, contact Yong Sharp at 567-4501.

HAWC health fair

The Health and Wellness Center proudly presents their Cholesterol Informational Health Fair. They will be conducting cholesterol screenings, cholesterol informational pamphlets, nutritional information and body fat analyzing. Fair dates and times are as follows:

Thursday, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

September 17th, 11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

September 27th, 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Interested individuals should go to the lobby area adjacent to Satellite Dish

Come join us and check out your cholesterol numbers and knowledge, every 50th customer gets a free HAWC water bottle!

For more information, contact Maj. Denise Irizarry at 7-7217.

Peterson Fitness and Sports Center events

■ POW/MIA 5K Fun Run, Friday. Cost is \$10 with a shirt or \$1 for the run only. Deadline for the registration is start time. Shirts are limited.

■ Volleyball Tournament, Sept. 17-20. Cost is \$10 per 8-man team roster. Game times are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Deadline for registration is Monday.

■ 10K Bike Ride Sept. 21. Cost is \$1 per person. Deadline for registration is race time. Meet in front of the fitness center. Helmets are required.

■ 4-on-4 Wallyball Tournament, Sept. 24-27. Cost is \$10 per team. Deadline for registration is Sept. 17. Game times are 10

a.m. to 2 p.m.

Question about any of the above programs can be directed to the special programs staff at 556-1515.

Education Grant Incentive Program

The Top 3 Education Committee will be taking applications for grants from E1-E6s from now until Oct. 5. Guidelines and applications can be found on the Schriever Intranet Top 3 site under contents.

There will be five grant recipients selected, each will receive \$50. Notifications will be completed by Oct. 11. For more information contact, Master Sgt. Brian Percy at 7-2233.

Found dog tags

An effort to return dog tags of servicemen killed during the Vietnam War to surviving family members has been launched by two U.S. businessmen on the website www.founddogtags.com.

The two businessmen, while taking a trip to Hanoi, discovered a street peddler selling these dog tags. As a result, the businessmen returned to Vietnam and bought all the dog tags they could find to return them to surviving family members.

All together, the businessmen have several hundred dog tags and they have already returned sets to family members through the web site.

Lightning briefing

Air Force Space Command presents Bill Roeder, 45th Weather Squadron, Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., Wednesday in Bldg. 300 Auditorium at 11:30 a.m.

Colorado is ranked 10th in the nation for casualties with an average 494,000 lightning strikes per year. About 27,500 of these strikes are in El Paso County causing one fatal and one nonfatal injury last year.

Family Advocacy Center classes

Mothers on the Move: Monday, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Family Advocacy Center

Mothers on the Move: Wednesday 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Family Advocacy Center

Common Sense Parenting: 2 to 4 p.m., Peterson Air Force Base Library.

Play Group: Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to noon, PAFB Chapel

Anger Management, 2 to 4 p.m., PAFB Education Center

Mothers on the Move: Friday, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Family Advocacy Center

For more information about any of these classes call 556-8943.

OSI cautions members

The British Ministry of Defense Police and Air Force Office of Special Investigations are currently conducting an investigation into a company that rents vehicles to United States and other authorized personnel in and around the RAF Lakenheath, Alconbury and Mildenhall areas within the United Kingdom.

The allegations are that this company may have charged for damage to rental vehicles, which did not occur, and U.S. personnel may have been deceived into paying other fraudulent charges for vehicles.

This scheme was cleverly disguised. Those who have been subjected to the frauds committed by this company should contact Special Agent Nate Guyear at 7-5049 so he may collect some information from you.

2nd SOPS three-peats as softball champs

Staff Report
50th Space Wing Public Affairs

The 2nd Space Operations Squadron softball team earned a third straight base championship Aug. 30 by dominating a tough 50th Security Forces

Squadron team 28-4. 2nd SOPS came out strong from the start, scoring runs early and often and never looking back. The cops couldn't put runs on the board even though they hit the ball hard. 2nd SOPS showed why they've won the

last three titles, by playing outstanding defense and holding the cops' speedy runners to singles and taking away several hits with great plays.

2nd SOPS got to the championship game by beating the 18th Intelligence Squadron 19-10 to win the championship bracket of the playoffs. 50th SFS earned a spot in the title game by working their way back through the "losers" bracket and knocking off 18th IS 16-15.

◀ 2nd SOPS shortstop, throws out runner at first during title game.

The three-time base softball champions ► pose with their trophy.



photo by Staff Sgt. Steve Horton

